

What is claimed is:

1. A camera user interface assembly comprising:
  - at least one object viewer;
  - a resizeable, image-capture-area designator superimposed on said at least one object viewer; and
  - a size selector operatively associated with said designator having at least one operating mode wherein said size selector is operable exclusively to resize said superimposed designator.
2. The assembly of claim 1 wherein said at least one object viewer comprises a display screen.
3. The assembly of claim 1 wherein said at least one object viewer comprises an optical viewfinder.
4. The assembly of claim 1 wherein said resizeable image-capture-area designator is a progressively increasingly and progressively decreasingly resizeable image-capture-area designator.
5. The assembly of claim 1 wherein said resizeable image-capture-area designator comprises a one-way, closed-loop resizeable image-capture-area designator.
6. The assembly of claim 1 wherein said resizeable image-capture-area designator comprises a discrete-step size, resizeable image-capture-area designator, each discrete-step resizing being associated with a discrete operation of said selector.

7. The assembly of claim 1 wherein said size selector comprises at least one of a: rocker toggle, single push button toggle, double push button toggle, slide toggle, continuous pressure toggle, joystick toggle, dial toggle and roller toggle.

8. The assembly of claim 1 wherein said resizeable, image-capture-area designator comprises at least one of: line border, contrast differential, color/black-and-white differential, gray scale differential, color hue differential, resolution differential, pattern overlay differential.

9. A camera comprising:

at least one object viewer;

a resizeable, image-capture-area designator superimposed on said at least one object viewer;

a size selector operatively associated with said designator having at least one operating mode wherein said size selector is operable exclusively to resize said superimposed designator.

10. A camera user interface assembly comprising:

at least one object viewer;

a resizeable, image-capture-area designator superimposed on said at least one object viewer;

a size selector operatively associated with said designator having at least one operating mode wherein said size selector is operable to continuously increase and

continuously decrease the size of said designator.

11. A camera comprising:

at least one object viewer;  
a resizeable, image-capture-area designator superimposed on said at least one object viewer;  
a size selector operatively associated with said designator having at least one operating mode wherein said size selector is operable to continuously increase and continuously decrease the size of said designator.

12. A method of operating a camera comprising:

displaying indicia representative of a portion of a displayed image which is to be selected for capture;

continuously resizing the indicia from a smaller size to a larger size and from the larger size the smaller size.

13. A method of operating a camera comprising:

operating a selector switch through its entire range of operation to resize displayed indicia representative of a portion of a displayed image which may be selected for capture without invoking other operating modes of the camera;

operating an image capture selector to capture only image data representative of the portion of the displayed image designated by the indicia.

14. A method of taking a picture of an object comprising:

imaging a remote scene that contains the object on a two dimensional photodetector array;

generating a first set of image data representative of the remote scene;

viewing the image representative of the remote scene on a display screen;

superimposing an area designator on the display screen;

continuously shrinking and enlarging the area designator until a desired reduced portion of the display screen which contains only the object is within the area designator;

based upon the size of the area designator selecting a portion the first set of image data which corresponds to the object to generate a second set of image data;

storing the second set of image data.

15. A method of making a camera comprising:

mounting a display having a resizeable image-capture-area designator superimposing function on a camera housing;

mounting a toggle on the camera housing which is operable, in at least one operating mode, only for initiating display of the designator and resizing the designator.

16. A method of making a camera comprising:

mounting a display having a resizeable image-capture-area designator superimposing function on a camera housing;

mounting a toggle on the camera housing which is operable to continuously resize the image-capture-area designator over its full range of sizes.

17. A camera user interface comprising:

means for displaying an image of an object;

means for designating a portion of said displayed image; and

means for continuously adjusting the size of said means for designating from a smallest size to a largest size and from said largest size to said smallest size.

18. A camera user interface comprising:

means for displaying an image of an object;

means for designating a portion of said displayed image; and

means for manipulating said means for designating, exclusive of selection or adjustment of other features of said camera.

19. A camera comprising:

means for displaying an image of an object;

means for designating a portion of said displayed image; and

means for continuously adjusting the size of said means for designating from a smallest size to a largest size and from said largest size to said smallest size.

20. A camera comprising:

means for displaying an image of an object;

means for designating a portion of said  
displayed image; and

means for manipulating said means for  
designating, exclusive of selection or adjustment of  
other features of said camera.